

**AILA CHICAGO CHAPTER  
USCIS DISTRICT DIRECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE  
CHICAGO FIELD OFFICE  
OCTOBER 29, 2015 MEETING**

**SUPPLEMENTAL MINUTES**

**1. Upcoming Personnel Changes**

It is anticipated that after Pauline Woodson's current rotation as the Acting Branch Chief of Adjudications finishes at the end of December of 2015 or early January of 2016, a permanent Branch Chief of Adjudications will begin duty. The Chicago Field Office is currently in the process of hiring for this position.

The Chicago Field Office is also in the process of hiring a permanent Branch Chief of the Fraud Detection and National Security (FDNS) Unit, who will take over duty from the current Acting Branch Chief, Nicholas Milissis.

**2. Inquiries about Stand-Alone I-212s**

Although the Chicago Field Office does not track processing times for stand-alone I-212s, the Branch Chief of Adjudications (currently, Pauline Woodson) will entertain inquiries about cases that have been awaiting interview scheduling for 120 days or more after transfer of the file to the Chicago Field Office.

The Branch Chief of Adjudications will also entertain inquiries about stand-alone I-130 petitions that have been pending for at least 120 days post-interview. However, if the beneficiary is in removal proceedings, the Chicago Field Office generally gives expedited treatment to those I-130 petitions and you may inquire sooner.

**3. Reminder: Veteran's Day Closure**

The Chicago Field Office is closed on all federal holidays, which includes Wednesday, November 11, 2015 (Veteran's Day).

**4. N-400 NTA Review Panels**

The specific membership of the Chicago Field Office's N-400 NTA Review Panel rotates, but always includes a local Supervisory Immigration Services Officer, a local USCIS Office of Chief Counsel attorney, and a district representative. The NTA Panel currently meets twice a week to review N-400 cases in which the applicant is potentially removable. Currently they are completing their review of cases from 2012.

The N-400 NTA Panel follows the guidelines set in the November 7, 2011 Policy Memorandum PM-602-0050, "Revised Guidance for the Referral of Cases and Issuance of Notices to Appear (NTAs) in Cases Involving Inadmissible and Removable Aliens", available on AILA Infonet as AILA Doc. No. 11110830 or on the USCIS.gov website at [http://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/Laws/Memoranda/Static\\_Files\\_Memoranda/NTA%20PM%20%28Approved%20as%20final%2011-7-11%29.pdf](http://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/Laws/Memoranda/Static_Files_Memoranda/NTA%20PM%20%28Approved%20as%20final%2011-7-11%29.pdf).